

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0040] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0040] It will thus be seen that configurations of the present invention provide consistent, modular access to tunable parameters that is easily understood and implemented by system administrators as well as system and application programmers. Moreover, in configurations of the present invention providing value validation of proposed changes in tunable parameter values, an opportunity for error recovery is provided, and changes to groups of tunable parameters can be coordinated so that error conditions are avoided. More particularly, in one configuration, the present invention allows administrators to specify all tunable parameter changes at once without having to figure out order in which the changes must be applied to avoid violating constraints. Also in one configuration, a three-phase commit mechanism ensures that none of the changes will be applied unless all of them can be applied successfully. In Fig. 4, flow can proceed optionally (as indicated by dashed/phantom arrows) from block 52 to block 51A, where it is determined if there are any alternate orders that have not yet been considered. If so (YES), then flow proceeds to block 51B, where an alternate order is selected. From block 51B, flow loops back to block 52. If not (NO), i.e., no alternate orders remain, then flow proceeds to block 54.

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